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At the Court at *St. James's*, *March* 5. 1703.

IT is Her Majeſty's Pleaſure, That the ſeveral Colonels and Officers of the Regiments, Troops and Companies, in Her Majeſty's Service in the Low-Countries, *do take Care, That their Recruits and Cloathing be put on board the Tranſport Ships now in the River of* Thames *before the Tenth Day of this Inſtant* March; *and that all Officers whatſoever belonging to ſuch Regiments, Troops and Companies, do, by the ſame Embarkation, repair to their ſeveral Poſts in the* Low-Countries, *upon pain of being ſuſpended from their reſpective Commands, ſuch Officers only excepted as are ordered to ſtay ſome time longer for Recruits.*

WILLIAM BLATHWAYT.

Turin, Febr. 22. *N. S.* General *Vaubonne* having received Orders to ſeize ſome Hoſtages for the Payment of the Contributions demanded of the Villages which lie along the *Seſia*, marched to the Village of *Nicorgue* with 150 Horſe and 40 Heidukes, and poſted himſelf in ſuch a manner, that he had this Village, a ſmall River and a Bridge before him, the Town of *Mortara* two miles on his Right, the Fort of *Viſpolate* three miles on his Left, where two *French* Battalions and 100 Horſe were quartered, and behind him the River *Gogne*, and the Towns of *Caſtelgogne* and *Cozzo*, in which Places there are *French* Gariſons: From this Poſt he ſent out ſmall Parties to bring in Hoſtages, which they did, he remaining there with the beſt part of his Party to ſecure the Paſſage of the *Gogne*. The Enemy having notice of his being there, ſent out a Body of 400 Horſe from *Mortara*, whereof 80, moſt of them Officers and Voluntiers, came up to General *Vaubonne*'s Party, but were ſo well received by the Heidukes, who were poſted at the Bridge above-mentioned, and ſo ill ſupported by the reſt of their Troops, that they were ſoon routed; and the Count *de Weſtat*, Lieutenant-Colonel of a Regiment of Huſſars, happening to return at the ſame time with one of thoſe Parties which had been ſent out for Hoſtages, he cut off their Retreat to *Mortara*; and of this whole Party of the Enemy, only 14 Officers and 18 Troopers remained alive, whom our Men took Priſoners. A ſmall Party of the Gariſon of *Montmeillan* has defeated double their number of *French* in *Savoy*. They write from *Nice*, That two *French* Men of War paſſed by there laſt week, with about 50 Sail of Tranſport Ships under their Convoy, which are ſuppoſed to be Recruits for the Duke of *Vendoſme*'s Army. Letters from *Geneva* ſay, that ſeveral People from the Borders of *Provence* have joined the *Cevennois*, who ſtill keep the Field, and continue their Excurſions.

Coningsberg, Febr. 29. Letters from *Warſaw* bring an Account, That on the 16th Inſtant the Heads of the Confederated Nobility drew up their Reſolution in form for declaring the Throne vacant, *&c.* which they confirmed with certain Oaths, which were adminiſtred to all the Members of that Aſſembly: That they had deſired the Cardinal Primate to take upon him the Adminiſtration, to ſummon a General Diet, and to require the *Poſtpolite Ruzzenie*, or Militia of the Country, to mount on Horſeback for the Defence of the Republick; and that they have declared the *Saxon* Troops, and all that ſhall aſſiſt the King of *Poland*, Enemies to the Commonwealth; whereupon the King had called together his Senate at *Cracow*, who had already come to ſome Reſolutions in oppoſition to thoſe taken by the Aſſembly at *Warſaw*. The Palatinates of *Cracow* and *Sendomir* have taken a new Oath of Fidelity to their King, and the Nobility of the *Leſſer Poland* and of *Lithuania* appear generally well diſpoſed towards his Service.

Copenhagen, March 1. *N. S.* Colonel *Bruckdorf* went from hence the 27th paſt towards *Oldenbourg*, in order to ſettle Matters there relating to a new Regiment of Land-Militia, which is to conſiſt of 1400 Men. They write from *Stockholm*, That that City has lately raiſed 200 Seamen for the King of *Sweden*'s Service, who for the greater Diſpatch were ſent down in Sledges to *Carelſcroon*, where they are fitting out 16 light Frigats, to cruize upon the *Muſcovites* off of the *Nyen-Schans* and *Wyborgh*, and to keep the *Eaſtland* Sea clear of them next Summer. Theſe Letters add, That there was a Project on foot in *Sweden* for Regiſtring a competent number of Seamen, who are to be always in a readineſs to man the Fleet whenever their Service ſhall be required, and are to be on the ſame Eſtabliſhment with the National Troops which are maintained by the Country. Lieutenant-General *Fleming* is ſhortly expected here from *Poland*, and Monſieur *Hertel* from *Wolfembuttel*.

Vienna, Febr. 27. The Count *de Bethleem* arrived here the 23d Inſtant from *Tranſilvania*, being deputed by the States of that Province to aſſure the Emperor of their Fidelity. He brought the welcome News, That Baron *Tege*, with a Body of 800 Cuiraſſiers and Dragoons, and 400 Musketiers, has defeated the Rebels near a Village called *Hoſilag*, killing 2000 of them on the plac; whereupon the Rebels had withdrawn their Forces from before ſeveral Places which they had before blocked up. We hear the Malecontents had endeavoured to take the Town of *Zatmar* by Storm, but were beat off with very conſiderable Loſs. The *Daniſh* Forces which were quartered in *Moravia* have paſſed the *Danube*, in order to join the Imperial Forces which are poſted along the *Leitha*, under the Command of General *Heiſter*.

Zurich, Febr. 27. The *French* Ambaſſador having deſired a Meeting of the Deputies of the Cantons at *Soleure*, the ſame was accordingly begun there the 18th Inſtant, and the Ambaſſador made a long Speech to them, the Sum of which was no more than to offer to them the Guard of that part of *Savoy* which borders upon the Lake of *Geneva*, and is called the Country of *Chablais* and *Fauſſigny*. The Diet having debated this Offer, made a Deputation to the Ambaſſador, to let him know, That beſides many Inconveniencies which would enſue from their Acceptance of that Propoſal, they did not think the Guard of thoſe Places a ſufficient Security for the *Helvetick* Body, who were reſolved not to let themſelves be ſurrounded by any one Prince. The Ambaſſador made many Proteſtations of the great Conſideration his Maſter had for the Cantons, and that he had no Deſign to ſurround them; But this not proving Satisfactory, he ſeemed to give ſome hopes of his Maſter's conſenting that the Fortreſs of *Montmeillan* might be put into the hands of the Cantons, but not the Country round it; and this not ſatisfying the Diet, which perſiſted to demand the Neutrality for all *Savoy*, the Aſſembly broke up with mutual Diſſatisfaction between them and the Ambaſſador, who at parting made them the following Speech:

Magnificent Lords!

I Am concerned to ſee that the more Complaiſance the King my Maſter has for your Deſires, the more you affect to make him Irregular Demands; for it ſeems you make no Account of the new Mark of his Conſideration which his Majeſty has ſo lately given you, in granting you the Favour which you had deſired of him, in relation to the Countries ſituate along the Rhine *and the Lake of* Conſtance. *Notwithſtanding all the King has done to remove the Apprehenſions you have of being ſurrounded by one powerful Prince, you are yet earneſt in asking a Neutrality for all* Savoy. *I am ſorry that I ſhould be obliged to tell you, I cannot give you any Aſſurances upon your Demands: Whenever you make any that ſhall not prejudice the King's Intereſt, I ſhall readily uſe my utmoſt good Offices for your Satisfaction; But while you perſiſt in endeavouring to obtain things which may expoſe part of his Majeſty's Dominions to the Mercy of his Enemies; and when you will exact that he ſhould give up his Advantages in their Favour, all I can do is to give the King an Account of your Demands, but without accompanying them with any Inſtances on my part, unleſs I were reſolved to diſpleaſe his Majeſty. It is enough for me that I have uſed all poſſible and reaſonable Means to undeceive you in the Fears you appear to have of being ſurrounded. I can do no more at preſent, but muſt expect the Orders his Majeſty will pleaſe to give me.*

The Duke of *Savoy*'s Levies go on very well; beſides which it is believed the Proteſtant Cantons will aſſiſt him with 7 Companies of 200 Men each, who will act offenſively wherever his Royal Highneſs ſhall think fit. The Count *d'Arco* was executed at *Bregents* the 18th Inſtant, for not doing his Duty